



# June 1997 Progress Report on Develop State/NOAA Coordination and Technical Support

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The five action items generated at the last meeting of the Steering Group were reviewed.

The listing of WCMs and their related Coastal County Emergency Managers (CCEMs) has been posted on the Group's home page. It was noted that some of the information on the CCEMs was out of date. The CCEM listings are to be reviewed and any updates supplied via "tsuhaz." ACTION: the States.

Dick Hutcheon gave a report on the training on tsunamis for the West Coast WCMs that was given at Anchorage and the WC/ATWC. It was requested that copies of the handouts used in the training be supplied to the members of the Group. ACTION: NWS - Hutcheon.

California commented on the valuable contribution that the WCMs made to their recent Tsunami Mitigation Workshop and recommended that the other States also invite the WCMs to participate in their Mitigation Workshops. It was also suggested that the WCMs might be effectively involved in the development of local evacuation plans. ACTION: the States

Now that the WCMs are being actively involved in tsunami activities it was the opinion of the Group that they should be added to "tsuhaz." ACTION: NOAA/PMEL

It was noted that not all members of the Group had received the information on EMWIN Emergency Management Weather Information Network and another distribution was requested. ACTION: NWS - Hagemeyer.

There was considerable discussion on two interrelated subjects

- What was the NWS responsibility to provide watches/warnings to the local community? and
- How do we get information on felt earthquakes to the local communities?

The response to the first question is that the NWS has no direct responsibility to the local communities. The NWS responsibility is basically on a regional level to the states and within a

Forecast Office's area of responsibility, to the counties in that area. The NWS does put watches and warnings on the NOAA Weather Wire Service (NWWS) and the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) so that the data are available to individuals and local communities who are equipped to receive the data.

The second question relates to the need to get information in a timely manner to communities which experience a felt earthquake. Information on the earthquake, magnitude and location, that could reach the communities in a few minutes would go a long way towards relieving confusion and concerns and possibly averting an unnecessary evacuation. It was noted that there is no current method of accomplishing this but that EMWIN might be a method of accomplishing this. It was agreed that the feasibility of using EMWIN for this purpose should be explored. ACTION: NWS - Hagemeyer.